



Monaco America News



VOL. 19, No. 2

FALL 2021

We did it! Had our first rally since we heard of COVID. Judy Wagner and the Granat's joined us. It was great to see them. We had three first timers who joined.



Old Timers
(figuratively speaking)

Enjoying after dinner Raffle



First Timers

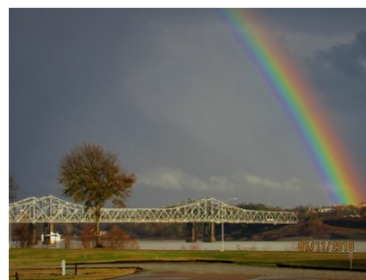
Elections were held and Ron Van Arsdall is our Rally Master and Tina Van Arsdall is our Secretary. All other officers, except President, were re-elected. Presidential election will be held next Spring.

Fall 2021 Rally in Vidalia, Louisiana

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The Fall 2021 Rally will be held at the Riverview RV Park on October 4-7, 2021. The rally fee includes 4 nights camping (Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.) with 50-amp full hookups; Monday Welcome Gathering; 3 breakfasts and 3 evening meals, and more.

The RV park is right on the Mississippi River. You can watch the river traffic sail by! There are many local sights to see, including the Frogmore Plantation, the Magnolia Bluffs Casino,



SEE YOU THERE!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Ralph Deborah Grubbwheeler, Reistertown, MD

Todd & Leah Goodwin, South Charlestown, OH

Jeff & Sandy Poche, Prairieville, LA

Paul & Jane Dockins, Grimesland, NC

From the President

MINI RANT

October 4th thru 7th--- River View RV Park, Vidalia LA.

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Get your registration and check to Jack.

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You have already heard the above over and over, you will read about it in other articles in this newsletter, as you have in the e-mails these past months. My Dad would say sounds like your beating a dead horse. I said that to him one time, I'm just giving up I quit, to which he replied quitting is easy but quitters never win.

So plan on hearing more of the above in the coming weeks.

October 4th thru 7th--- River View RV Park, Vidalia LA.

Get your registration and check to Jack.

End of Rant

This fall rally will be the Monaco America's 20th anniversary. I don't know what Ron, our rally master has planned but I'm sure it will be great as always.

At present I'm in contact with FMCA in getting someone from to attend. See National Director column.

One topic of discussion at the rally will be changing the club name from Monaco America to RVAmerica.

In closing, looking over my rant I maybe could have worded it different but then I write the same as I speak. If you have any comments I can be reached at hodgeus@yahoo.com or my cell is 818-535-4572..

Sonny Hodge
President, Monaco America

From the Rally Master

We are getting closer to our fall rally, and we would like to know if you are going to join in the fun with us. We will be in Vidalia, LA at the Riverview RV Park sitting right on the Mississippi River from October 4th to the 7th. Please take the time to fill out a registration form ([click here to view and print](#)) and get your money sent so we can plan on how many are coming. Hope to see you there.

You can read all about the rally on our club website ([click here to view the rally information](#)).

Ron Van Arsdall
Rally Master



Ron and Tina Van Arsdall

FMCA

Gillette report.....Didn't make it.

Two days before we were due to leave found fuel on the ground under coach. Started making calls to local dealers, "Oh, we only work on the inside/outside of RV's. You need a truck repair place". Found one, but they couldn't get to it for a week or so. While they had it for the fuel leak the A/C needed charging and I had a slow air leak. After three weeks they got the A/C done but didn't find a fuel or air leak.

Picked it up. Our local Elks Kamper Klub is having a three day outing. We're going. NOT. Air up coach and have fuel on the ground. Back to shop. They steam clean engine. Can't find leak. Bring it home. A member of the Elks recommends a place he's used. They are booked for a week but bring it in and they will take a look. Had to order part but its fixed. YEAH. Air leak was air bag. Ordered and being replaced.

That's the way the last three month have been. You bet we are ready to get on the road ASAP.

During all this down time, ha ha, I have been in contact with FMCA International Area (INTO), Monaco America is in the INTO Area, about someone attending our 20th anniversary. As soon as I find out I will send out an e-mail. Just another reason to attend if you needed one.

FMCA Roadside Assistance: MA members Henry and Norma Kindschi had engine failure on June 10 near Gunnison CO. Within an hour it was on a tow truck to Gunnison for the night and on Friday taken to Cummins in Grand Junction. For more info ask them, they will be at the rally in LA.

Sonny Hodge
FMCA National Director

Fill and send in to Jack - **YESTERDAY**

Rally Registration Form

Send Rally Registration Form with check or money order as follows:

Make check payable to Monaco America

Mail to: Monaco America c/o John Connell
 2829 West Grand River
 Howell, MI 48843

Vidalia, Louisiana
October 4-7, 2021

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 Member/Coach | \$425 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 Member/Coach | \$375 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Registration for 2 (no Camping) | \$320 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-Monaco America Members (add on extra) | +\$25 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monaco America Plaque | \$30 | |

TOTAL

- _____

Rally Dates: _____ Rally Location: _____

Pilot's Name: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

CoPilot's Name: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Monaco America Member? Yes No First Monaco America Rally? Yes No

Coach Make & Model: _____ Length _____ # Slides _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone Number _____

Number and Kind of Pet: _____

FMCA # _____

of Guests _____ Guest's Names : _____

Food Allergies/Medical Restrictions: _____ Special Needs: _____

Attending associate functions? (e.g., those mentioned in the rally bio) Yes No

Early Arrival? Yes No Arrival Date _____ Please make arrangements with park unless otherwise noted in rally bio

Handicap? Yes No

Comments:

Attention Crafters

Well, at this time, I have not been overwhelmed with volunteers to put on a craft class. If you come up with something, Ron says we can fit it in, so there's still time.

Ladies' Tea

Hosted by Suellen Hodge



Our charity for this rally is Operation G.R.I.T.S. — Gifts Raised in the South. They dedicate their efforts to show appreciation of the service given to our country by the military. Especially those who are serving our country overseas during the Christmas season. They send as many boxes as possible to reach soldiers who may not have family at home who are not able to send the Christmas gifts. Please remember that Christmas away from family and friends can be very lonely for soldiers overseas. Their website is at <https://www.operationgrits.com/>.



Suggested Snack Food & Miscellaneous Items:

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Canned Fruit | Tooth Paste/Deodorant |
| Chicken/Tuna | Shampoo/Conditioner |
| Peanut Butter/Jelly | Body Wash/Soap |
| Instant Coffee | Advil/Tylenol/Cough Drops |
| Coffee Creamer | Antacids/Pepto Bismol/Imodium |
| Mayo/Mustard/Relish | Antibiotic Cream |
| Popcorn | Toenail/Fingernail Clippers |
| Brownie Mix | Mouthwash/Dental Floss |
| Mac & Cheese Dinners | Chapstick |
| Instant Grits/Oatmeal | Contact Lense Cleaner |
| Powdered Drink Mixes | Eye Drops/Eyeglass Kit |
| Juice Boxes | Cotton Balls/Q-tips |
| Beef Jerky/Beef Sticks | Nasal Spray/Drops |
| Gum/Hard Candy | Foot Powder |
| Cookies/Crackers | Insect Repellent (non-aerosol) with DEET |
| Energy Bars/Granola Bars | And many more items listed on their website. |

From the Webmaster

Monaco America's Website – www.MonacoAmerica.com

Monaco America Website

Do you have a smart phone? Most of us do, though I only recently gave up my flip phone and moved into the 21st century. With a smart phone, you have Monaco America in your pocket all the time! You can keep up to date with our rally plans, look up phone numbers and addresses, and send a message to the club officers. Just connect to <https://monacoamerica.com>.

Most of our website is open to you and the public; however, you will need a password to view our member's personal information. If you don't have a working password, contact Bert Garcia, Webmaster, and he will assist you. Your password is known only to you, so don't lose it! You can use the Contact page on the website, or you can send him an email at bertgarcia73@gmail.com.

The photos from the May 2021 rally in South Charleston, Ohio are on the club website at <http://photoalbum.monacoamerica.com/>. If you have pictures for the website, send them to Bert Garcia, webmaster. See you at the next rally!

Bert Garcia
Monaco America Webmaster

From the Treasurer

Due to the lack of events in 2020, dues for that year have been waived. The year through which you have paid will be extended one year.

Please send the completed form, with your \$25 check made payable to Monaco America.

You can mail in your dues to:

Monaco America
c/o John W. Connell
2829 West Grand River Ave
Howell, Michigan 48843-8581



And, register Vidalia, LA
BEFORE SEPT 16

If you have any questions contact Jack Connell.
Cell: 586-817-7584
Email: Treasurer@MonacoAmerica.com

Facts about COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the three approved COVID-19 vaccines do help prevent COVID-19. And, if you get COVID-19, they'll help keep you from getting seriously ill.

Before you receive the vaccine:

- Doctors agree: You should take the first vaccine available to you, as soon as you are eligible. Know that these vaccines are safe and effective. They have gone through the same safety tests and meet the same standards as any other vaccines produced through the years. There's a system in place for the CDC to watch for safety issues and make sure the vaccines stay safe.
- Learn about any side effects that could occur after you get the vaccine. If you do have any side effects, they'll only last a few days. Having any side effects doesn't mean you have COVID-19. It means that your body is being trained to fight COVID-19.

After you receive the vaccine:

You're considered fully protected against the virus that causes COVID-19:

- Two weeks after the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.
- Two weeks after the second dose of the Moderna vaccine.
- Two weeks after the single dose of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.

Don't forget to let your provider know you've received your vaccine! This information will be added to your health record.

After you're fully vaccinated:

The CDC has issued new information about the kinds of activities you can do after you are fully vaccinated.

- You can gather indoors *with fully vaccinated people* without wearing a mask, even if they are from another household
- You can gather indoors with other unvaccinated people from *one other household* without masks, as long as they are not at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- If you've been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.
- As more people get the vaccine, we will be able to visit more friends and family safely and return to normal. The new CDC guidelines provide additional information about what you can do safely when you are vaccinated.

Your health and safety are very important to us.
We will follow all the Covid-19 guidance during our Fall rally.

FMCA CONVENTION WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR EXPOSURE TO COVID-19

Convention Name: _____

Place of Rally: _____ **Dates of Rally:** _____

FMCA is scheduling a convention for members and guests at the location and on the dates shown (the "Rally"). As a condition to attending the Rally, each attendee hereby acknowledges, certifies and agrees to the following:

1. The undersigned attendee agrees to comply with mask, social distancing and other Covid-19 protocols that will be distributed to attendees at the rally as well as any additional Covid-19 requirements from applicable local, state and federal mandates.
2. Regardless of adherence to health department requirements and recommendations, there is a risk of Covid-19 exposure whenever an individual enters a public space, a building with other people, or is in a crowd of individuals. By attending this Rally, the undersigned attendee is assuming the risk of Covid-19 exposure.
3. Knowing the foregoing risks, the undersigned attendee accepts sole responsibility for any exposure to Covid-19 and resulting health conditions that may occur as a result of attendance at the Rally.
4. The undersigned attendee hereby releases and holds harmless Family Motor Coach Association, and its respective officers, directors, and staff from any and all responsibility for illnesses, injuries, sickness, death, or other losses arising in any way from participation in the Rally, and potential exposure to Covid-19.
5. The undersigned attendee acknowledges that the FMC Assist Medical Emergency and Travel Assistance Program does not cover Covid-19

THE UNDERSIGNED ATTENDEE HAS READ AND UNDERSTANDS THE ABOVE WAIVER AND RELEASE, UNDERSTANDS THE RISKS POSED BY COVID-19, AND SIGNS THE WAIVER AND RELEASE VOLUNTARILY.

Attendee's Name (print): _____

Attendee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Attendee's Name (print): _____

Attendee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Monaco America Board



President: Carl "Sonny" Hodge, hodgeus@yahoo.com
1st VP/Rally Master: Ronald Van Arsdall, ronv731826@aol.com
2nd VP/Security: Floyd Cook, fwcook1@gmail.com
Secretary: Bettina (Tina) Van Arsdall, ronv731826@aol.com
Treasurer: Jack Connell, jconnell@jconnellassoc.com
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Alt. Nat'l. FMCA Dir.: Bert Garcia, bertgarcia73@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Suellen Hodge, HodgeSuellen@aol.com
Webmaster: Bert Garcia, bertgarcia73@gmail.com
Past Presidents:
Rich Cotterall, rcotterall@yahoo.com
Gary Granat, gegranat@gmail.com

Questions on Club Membership?

Contact Jack Connell
Monaco America
422 Inverness
Howell, MI 48843
586-817-7584
jconnell@jconnellassoc.com
Annual Dues Only \$25
\$15 Initiation fee

The Newsletter is published by Monaco America, a chapter of the Family Motorcoach Association (FMCA). The views expressed are strictly those of the individual contributors and do not reflect the views of FMCA or Monaco America. If you have information you would like placed in the newsletter, please send it to the editor by email at:

HodgeSuellen@aol.com
(Please identify any e-mail with the subject line of Monaco America)

Send your change of address and/or your dues to:

Monaco America
422 Inverness
Howell, MI 48843
586-817-7584
jconnell@jconnellassoc.com



Our Monaco America Plaques are still available!

Proudly mount this plaque on your rear ladder or in your windshield.

This plaque is made from sturdy 1/4" molded plastic resin, silk-screened in three bright colors then painted with clear enamel to keep it looking good for years. This plaque is the same size as your FMCA plaque. Ladder brackets or suction cups are available for mounting.

The Order Form is on our club website. The plaque is \$30, ladder brackets are \$12 per pair, and suction cups are \$6 per pair. Order now and pick up your plaque at the next rally to save shipping or have it shipped to you immediately. Don't delay!

Proudly show your Monaco America membership!



**Monaco America
News**
Suellen Hodge, Editor
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Reseda, CA 91335-1258

**UPCOMING RALLY
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!**

Fall 2021



Monaco America Fall Rally
October 4-7, 2021
River View RV Park & Resort
100 River View Parkway
Vidalia, LA
318-336-1400